

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Veteran's Memorial Building, Rm 19
2900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054
MEETING NOTES FROM January 13 2022 – Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Bert called meeting to order at 9:00 AM

The following persons were present:, COA Director Patty Kayo, Helen Daly, Brooks Corl, Chris McCaffrey, Bert Lannon, Elizabeth Derwin, Lisette Walter

Secretary's Report

Accepted as written

Elizabeth stressed that Jim McCaffrey's notes in Nov meeting – DO NOT DELIBERATE

Treasurer's Report –on target until the end of December – hoping to get State Formula Grant shortly – noted that these funds are not restricted. The \$17,508 shown can be used whenever needed.

- Bert asks – What is Gift Account? - monies people donate directly to COA (not the Friends) is a revolving fund and can be used for any senior need

HESSCO Report

- Biggest take away from last meeting – struggling to get workers currently short 10 positions although they have increased wages

Outreach Report:

- No report as Debbie is not at meeting

Director's Report:

- 25 Millis residents (total of 44) attended the Christmas trip to Newport
- Beth Murphy had 10 attend her class – will have more meetings in the near future
- Old van not yet traded or sold

Chairman's Report

- Bert reports that it's costing about 9K per year to send out approx. 1700 copies of the newsletter with less than 10% of seniors sending in dues to help cover this cost – is it worth the 9K?
- Suggested that the next newsletter include the question “do you want to continue to receive the newsletter?” With a reply by either email or phone.
- The labels on the newsletters are no longer highlighting past due paid dates due to printer problems.
- Suggestions that we start to solicit adds to help cover the cost? We would lose our non-profit mailing rate and we are also not staffed to do that
- Elizabeth asks if we can look into regular transportation from the Senior Housing to the Food Pantry 2X per month – the 1st and 3rd Wed? She would be willing to extend the hours to 11:30-12:30 – Bert volunteered to drive. Patty will check with the Director of Kennedy Terrace to ask that they get the word out to residents. Question as to helping seniors carry their packages into their units? - No we offer curb to curb service. Elizabeth is willing to go to Housing to help those in need.
- New van – still waiting for handicapped plate – Patty is working on it

Old Business

- Meeting with Town Administrator on 12/22
- Elizabeth stated that Mike, Pete Jurmain, Patty, Helen and Elizabeth were in attendance. Conclusion was that the request was understood and would be passed on to the Planning Board – Point was made at this meeting that we, the Board of the COA need to support the PBC's efforts for the project to go forward. Mike made it clear that he was sorry for the misunderstanding regarding working groups but that was standard practice for all PBC projects.
- Helen made a point – that someone mentioned why we can't build additional Senior Housing for the town – could the Sr. Center be part of that project? - Senior Housing is funded through the State.

New Business

- Valentine's Day luncheon – decision was made Motion: **Do not have Valentine's Day event this year due to Covid.** Approved unanimously
- Dental offering – Jan 24th to help those seniors in need of assistance with Dental care. 8 people have already signed up. Will be handled by a local dentist.
- Two-Sister will be covering a program on Pro-Active Planning and agreeing place on Jan 25th at 2pm. They have presented before and were well received
- Medical Cannabis – Comm Can will present a program on Feb 28th at 1pm to discuss the benefits of medical marijuana and will have someone to discuss how to obtain Medical Marijuana Certificate.
- Are there any other centers offering this? Not to Patty's knowledge.
- Elizabeth asks if any new trips are planned?? - Yes 2 are in the works
- Patty still trying to get a new Driver coordinator/Receptionist to work Monday – Thursday 9-1pm, She had interviewed 3 people so far with 1 a possibility. She will post in the next newsletter if position hasn't been filled

Meeting adjourned at 9:48 AM
Next COA Board Meeting: Thursday Feb 10th
9:00 AM– via Zoom until further notice